

# YSCIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Council meeting, held on 15 November 2017 , at 7.30pm at Cradoc Golf Club

**Councillors Present:** Jane Price  
Bob Wood  
Dilys Davies  
Valerie Davies  
Kate Dunning

**Also present:** Michael Westhorpe (Clerk)  
Cllr Iain McIntosh

### **1. Apologies for absence**

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Tess Birtles and Cllr Geoff Watkins.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

### **3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2017**

3.1 Apart from Cllr Bob Wood and Cllr Kate Dunning being recorded as both present and absent (they were absent); it was agreed that the minutes should be signed as a true and accurate record of the last meeting.

### **4. Clerk's report including information from minutes**

4.1 Under 4.6 the Clerk read out the response he had received from the school in which Malcolm Roberts' sterling work in securing the new parking arrangements at the school was highlighted.

4.2 Regarding the damaged wall by Aberyscir Bridge, the Clerk reported that no response had been received from Powys County Council so he had resubmitted the query. Cllr Valerie Davies reported that the work still had not been done.

4.3 The Clerk reported back on the possible visit to the Palace of Westminster. Cllr Jane Price said that previously transport to London had been organised by the sitting MP. If these arrangements were repeated, several councillors would be interested.

4.4 The Clerk reported that he had signed the Council up to the Tree Legacy Charter and that a Cherry tree had been requested. A tree had arrived but its identity had not been confirmed. Following a positive response from the school it was decided to site the tree there as it would be visible to residents. Cradoc Golf Club was thanked for its willingness to provide a site for the tree.

4.5 Cllr Iain McIntosh reported back on a number of highways related issues:

a) The speed of vehicles in a number of areas had been analysed, including Cradoc Road, outside Cradoc School, through Pontfaen. The results had not been received but if the number of vehicles speeding was above a certain percentage, action would be taken to deter speeding.

b) A resident was concerned that tractors turning right from Cradoc onto the Aberyscir road would damage his property. Lyn Parry was looking into this.

c) Lyn Parry was also going to investigate the 30mph signs in Aberbran.

4.6 Cllr Iain McIntosh reported back that he had gained signatures from 212 properties in the area for a faster broadband connection. He had seen a representative from the Welsh Assembly Government and it had been agreed to use these as a potential grant application. Providers of microwave wifi and fibre broadband were being approached to tender for work. Councillors agreed to meet with Iain again to help choose which companies should be invited to tender for the installation.

**5. Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 4 October 2017**

- 5.1 The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair. Cllr Dilys Davies clarified that she did not attend because she had declared an interest and asked that if this occurs again, the minutes should record this.

**6. To determine whether to register Common Land in Battle not previously recorded and to consider requesting dog fouling signs**

- 6.1 A fence had been erected on the common land in front of Bryn yr Haf in Battle. The Chairman and Clerk had spoken with the owner who then took it down. Powys County Council confirmed that historic mapping of the area indicated that Battle Common did extend to this area but that the application to register Battle Common in 1968 did not include this area. It was agreed that an application should be made to correct this mistake.

**7) To note and prepare for the reform of Data Protection Legislation**

- 7.1 The Clerk explained that the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will replace the existing Data Protection Act 1998 on 25 May 2018. It places greater onus on data 'processors' who will have more legal liability in the event of a breach. Fortunately, the Council stores very little personal data (e.g. email addresses of people who contact the Council) but people still need to be mindful of GDPR requirements. The Clerk is seeking further advice from the Society of Local Council Clerks and will report back to the Council at a future meeting.

**8) To determine if anything can be done about cars parking in Cradoc near the junction with the road to Aberyscir ( Cllr Bob Wood)**

- 8.1 A constituent had raised this issue with Cllr Bob Wood and had asked for it to be discussed. Cars park so close to the junction that it is not possible to see if cars are coming down Cradoc Road when exiting the junction. Cllr Iain McIntosh said that he had observed this problem and had raised it with Lyn Parry. The cars also park partly on the pavement which is an offence. After discussion it was generally agreed that double yellow lines were required to reinforce the Highway Code rule of not parking within 15m of a junction. Cllr Iain McIntosh agreed to raise this with Lyn Parry.

**9) Financial Matters**

- 9.1 The clerk's hours (19.5hrs), pay (£167.55) and expenses (£26.55) for September and October were approved. Payments to HMRC (£92.10 for PAYE), the Wales Audit Office ( £186) and One Voice Wales (£120 for training) were approved.

- 9.2 The cashbook indicated that after the expenditure approved at the meeting there would be a balance of £ 2,920 in the bank. The budget monitoring statement predicted an end of year balance of around £3,000, excluding any payment to PCC for election expenses.

- 9.3 The Clerk explained that the level of reserves would be examined by the external auditor in 2018. The Guidance stated that: 'It is generally accepted that general (un-earmarked) revenue reserves usually lie within a range of three to twelve months of gross expenditure. However, the amount of general reserve should be risk assessed and approved by the Council'.

The Council spends around £3,000 a year but reserves had been built up for 2017 in case it was necessary to pay for a community council election. It was agreed that a general reserve of around £1500 should be maintained.

**10. To review the Clerk's salary**

- 10.1 The clerk left the room for this item. It was agreed to retain the existing salary spinal column point.

**11) Correspondence**

- a) BBBNPA Rights of Way questionnaire\*
- b) Welsh Local Government: Guidance on review of communities\*
- c) Request for funding from the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution\*

- d) Update to Powys Teaching Health Board Stakeholder Reference Group\*
- e) Review of the Community and Town Council sector questionnaire\*
- f) Invitation to PAVO Annual Conference\*
- g) Letter from the Pensions Regulator about minimum pension contributions
- h) News item from PCC regarding improved waste collections
- i) Cae Post Newsletter
- j) One Voice Wales Newsletter\*
- k) Citizens Advice Bureau: request for funding

PCC = Powys County Council; BBNPA = Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

\* circulated by email

\*\* received by email but not circulated

**12) Consideration of any planning applications received after the agenda was circulated**

- 12.1 The following planning application had been received: TREE/2017/0048, Clear area of laurel which is preventing access to pond and remove overhanging willow tree (TPO2/1985) at Cradoc Golf Club, Penoyre Park, Cradoc, Brecon.
- 12.2 There were no objections to this application

**13) Detritus left on road after hedge cutting and responsibility for clearing it up ( Cllr Bob Wood)**

- 13.1 Cllr Bob Wood reported that a constituent had asked for this to be discussed at the meeting. The landowner or contractor cutting the hedge was responsible for clearing up the debris but Highways were responsible for enforcement.
- 13.2 Cllr Dilys Davies commented that the problems arose because farmers were not allowed to cut the hedges before 1 September and the extra growth in August resulted in much thicker and longer stems.
- 13.3 After some discussion no solution could be identified as it was felt that Highways would not enforce clearing up of debris. However, if there is a problem , Highways need to be made aware of it.

**14) Issues to be raised with Powys County Council**

- 14.1 Cllr Jane Price reported that the verge on the road by Battle Hill junction at Battle End was becoming bad again. Cllr Iain McIntosh said that he would ask Lyn Parry to have another look at this.
- 14.2 The Council expressed its disappointment that the gravel stored by Yr Crug was not being used to resurface the stretch of Cradoc Road that was missed out several years ago.
- 14.3 Cllr Iain McIntosh said that he was pushing Powys County Council to reinstall the recycling centre at Cradoc. The main objection was the likelihood of flytipping re-occurring but this could be prevented with the use of cameras and prosecution of offenders.

**15) Confirmation of date and times of next meeting: Wednesday 10 January 2018 (7.30pm)  
at Cradoc Golf Club**

The meeting closed at 8.40pm